

Cabrillo National Monument

1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive San Diego, CA 92106 (619) 557-5450 phone (619) 222-8211 TTY (619) 226-6311 fax

CABRILLO News Release

Release date: Immediate

Contact: Karl M. Pierce, Public Information Officer

Phone number: 619-523-4562

Email: Karl_Pierce@nps.gov
Date: August 26, 2008

Cabrillo National Monument Kicks Off 2008-2009 Tidepool Season, Seeks Volunteers-In-Parks

[SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA] - Have you ever wanted to volunteer for your National Parks? Do you love the ocean? Do you want to be outside in a beautiful, wild coastal environment? Do you enjoy working with families, children and the general public? Are you interested in learning about and sharing your knowledge of tidepool wildlife, geology, and/or ecology? If you answered yes, then Cabrillo National Monument, *San Diego's National Park*, invites you to help protect the monument's popular tidepool area as a volunteer in the Volunteers-In-Parks Program (VIPs). Volunteers-In-Parks in the Tidepool Protection, Education and Restoration Program (TPERP) help the National Park Service protect this intricate, fragile area by educating visitors and helping them to create their own personal intellectual and emotional connections with this fascinating environment.

Superintendent Tom Workman announced today that in preparation for the upcoming tidepool season (October through June), the National Park Service will hold a fun, introductory orientation and training conference for new and returning TPERP volunteers on **Saturday**, **September 13 and Saturday**, **September 27**, **2008 from 8:30 AM until 5:00 PM**. New Volunteers-In-Parks are required to attend the September 13th training. **Please register by September 10** by contacting Park Ranger Marcy Marquez at telephone (619) 523-4573 or via email at Marcy Marquez@nps.gov, and you will be sent directions, a class schedule and other relevant information.

This fun and informative introductory conference will include presentations by field experts, monument staff and VIPs. Lunches will be provided. The successful TPERP program has been going for more than ten years and many experienced VIPs and staff will help you along the way. The National Park Service requires Volunteers-In-Parks to commit a minimum of eight (8) hours per month (about two four-hour shifts) plus periodic in-service training sessions held throughout the year, and you must wear an official National Park Service Volunteers-In-Parks uniform, which the monument provides. No prior experience is needed, but an interest in learning and desire to share are.

Said Workman, "as we prepare for the centennials of Cabrillo National Monument in 2013 and the National Park Service in 2016, the TPERP volunteers increase our capacity to protect the fragile intertidal system and to provide school children and other park visitors with high-quality, park-based learning to help connect them to Cabrillo National Monument and impart to them a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks while encouraging them to be future conservationists. This successful program supports the mission of the National Park Service and the goals of the NPS Centennial Initiative."

Cabrillo National Monument, located on Point Loma at the end of Catalina Boulevard, is open daily from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM. Hourly public transportation (#28 Bus, connecting with #84 Bus) is available to the upper area of the monument only from the Old Town Trolley Station. For additional information about the monument call 619-557-5450 or TTY 619-222-8211, or visit our web site at http://www.nps.gov/cabr. For more information about the National Park Service Centennial Initiative visit http://www.nps.gov/2016/.

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